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ZNR UUUUU ZZH  
P 070929Z MAY 09  
FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK  
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6968  
INFO RUETIAA/DIRNSA FORT GEORGE G MEADE MD PRIORITY  
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RHEFDIA/DIA WASHDC PRIORITY  
RHMCSUU/FBI WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY  
RUCPDOG/USDOC WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY

UNCLAS BANGKOK 001145

SIPDIS

FOR PM/DTCC - BLUE LANTERN COORDINATOR

E.O. 12958: N/A  
TAGS: [ETTC](#) [KOMC](#) [TH](#)  
SUBJECT: BLUE LANTERN POST-SHIPMENT END USE CHECK ON  
LICENSE 050099706

REF: STATE 31926

11. (U) POL FSN confirmed with the Commercial Registration Section of the Phrae Provincial Administration Organization that Udoman Store is a listed trading vendor. The store's commercial registration is as follows:

License No. 5101200109007, issued January 10, 2007  
Licensed to Manit Udom  
Location: 564, Mu 2, Tambon Denchai, Amphoe Denchai, Phrae  
Purpose of Business: To sell, purchase, possess, order, import, firearms or ammunition for commercial, and miscellaneous products

Per the Commercial Registration Section, there is no derogatory information on the store. The Section stated that the store had been in business for more than fifty years.

12. (U) The Deputy District Chief of the Den Chai District Office told POL FSN that store is an authorized gun trader. The owner and licensee is Manit Udom, a seventy-five years old native of Phrae who is a respected trader and social figure in the area. District Office provided the following documents:

-- Permit for Sale and Import of Firearms, No. 2/255 1, issued by Den Chai District Office, dated December 25, 2008, to expire December 24, 2009, annually renewable

-- Permit for Possession of Firearms for Commercial Purpose, No. 71/255 1, issued by Den Chai District Office, dated December 25, 2008, to expire December 24, 2009, annually renewable

The shop is granted an annual sales quota of:

- (1) 50 rifles,
- (2) 30 pistols,
- (3) 2,000 buckshot bullets,
- (4) 7,500 shotgun bullets,
- (5) 10,000 rimfire bullets, and
- (6) 30,000 air-propellant bullets

The District Office did not have any derogatory information on the store. The Office believed that the reftel rifles were within the caliber allowed by the Gun Act 1947 for import and sale.

13. (U) The Udoman Store was not listed in the telephone directory. The reftel phone number was registered under an individual named Adul Udom with the same address as stated reftel. We were unable to connect with this number.

¶4. (U) As the Udoman Store is located 560 kilometers from Bangkok, a site visit was not conducted. POL FSN did discuss the store's business with Manit Udom via phone calls on April 27 and 28. Manit told us that Udoman has been in business for over fifty years and that he travels between Bangkok and Phrae for business. Manit said Adul Udom is his elder brother. Udoman generally sells agricultural products, such as fertilizer and farming equipment, but that the sale of firearms is a part of the store's business. Firearms are not displayed for sale at the store, rather customers are typically found over the internet. Reftel questions:

Can you confirm the order and receipt of the firearms listed on this license application?

Answer: The order of the listed rifles was confirmed. It was the import/purchase under the Import License No. 6/2551, dated March 19, 2008, to expire March 18, 2009, issued by Denchai District Office, for the import of ten pieces of Kimber .308 rifles. The Udoman purchase order to the Kimber is Ref. PR 02/2008, dated April 8, 2008. All ten rifles arrived Thailand in July, 2008.

What are these types of rifles generally used for in Thailand?

Answer: They are mainly for sporting purposes such as shooting competitions.

Do you have detailed records linking these rifles by serial number to the ultimate end-users? Can you provide the ten

serials numbers and end-users for these rifles?

Answer: Yes. Manit provided the following information regarding the buyers of rifles:

¶1. Mr. Somphot Buraphasakun, born December 1959, residing at Thung Khru District, Bangkok. Permit to buy firearm No. PK 9762/2551, dated July 25, 2008, to expire January 24, 2009, issued by the Department of Provincial Administration, MOI, Bangkok. U.S. serial number KW 21337 with Thai registration No. PR 07/5150089, dated August 1, 2008.

¶2. Mr. Sitthichai Phokhai-udom, age 60, residing at Nong Chok District, Bangkok. Permit to buy firearm No. PK 93 15/2551, dated July 15, 2008, to expire January 14, 2009, issued by the Department of Provincial Administration, MOI, Bangkok. U.S. serial number KW 21362 with Thai registration No. PR 07/5 150091, dated August 11, 2008.

¶3. Mr. Kritsada Tantiwiwatphan, born September 1952, residing at Lak Si District, Bangkok. Permit to buy firearm No. PK 8392/2551, dated June 26, 2008, to expire December 25, 2008, issued by the Department of Provincial Administration, MOI, Bangkok. U.S. serial number KW 21382 with Thai registration No. PR 07/5150092, dated July 25, 2008.

¶4. Mr. Parinya Phanitchanok, born June 1955, residing at Phra Nakhon District, Bangkok. Permit to buy firearm No. PK 7859/2551, dated June 17, 2008, to expire December 16, 2008, issued by the Department of Provincial Administration, MOI, Bangkok. U.S. serial number KW 21457 with Thai registration No. PR 07/5 150093, dated July 25, 2008.

¶5. Mr. Krairoek Khotcha, born April 1968, residing at Bang Na District, Bangkok. Permit to buy firearm No. PK 9957/2551, dated July 30, 2008, to expire January 29, 2009, issued by the Department of Provincial Administration, MOI, Bangkok. U.S. serial number KW 21758 with Thai registration No. PR 07/5 150095, dated August 22, 2008.

¶6. Mr. Nathee Uppatham, born May 1962, residing at Khlong San District, Bangkok. Permit to buy firearm No. PK 2516/2551, dated February 19, 2008, to expire August 18, 2008, issued by the Department of Provincial Administration, MOI, Bangkok. U.S. serial number KW 21781 with Thai registration No. PR

07/5150096, dated July 25, 2008.

17. Mr. Thitiphan Phatisuwan, born December 1968, residing at Chatuchak District, Bangkok. Permit to buy firearm No. PK 8090/255 1, dated June 19, 2008, to expire December 18, 2008, issued by the Department of Provincial Administration, MOI, Bangkok. U.S. serial number KW 21856 with Thai registration No. PR 07/5150098, dated July 31, 2008.

18. Mr. Charoen Kaewmak, born January 1961 residing at Muang Pattani District, Pattani. Permit to buy firearm No. 287/2551, dated April 10, 2008, to expire October 9, 2008, issued by Muang Pattani District Office, Pattani Province. U.S. serial number KW 21754 with Thai registration No. PR 07/5 150094, dated August 4, 2008.

9 and 10. Mr. Chatchawan Chop-issara, born June 1973, residing at Muang Nakhon Ratchasima District, Nakhon Ratchasima. Permit to buy firearm No. 664/2551, dated June 18, 2008, to expire December 17, 2008, and No. 752/2551, dated July 21, 2008, to expire January 20, 2009, both issued by Muang Nakhon Ratchasima District Office, Nakhon Ratchasima Province. U.S. serial number KW 21808 with Thai registration No. PR 07/5 150097, dated August 19, 2008, and U.S. serial number KW 21359 with Thai registration No. PR 07/5 150090, dated August 1, 2008.

Who are your regular customers and where do they reside?

Answer: They are the general public and state officials. They live nationwide. Most civilians are sportsmen while officials buy rifles for their official or private use. Most of customers find and buy these firearms through the internet or at the store's trade partner in Bangkok, the Prayot Firearms Ltd. Typically, Udoman orders and imports rifles and Prayot helps to do customs and tax clearance when items arrive at the Bangkok Airport.

What US-origin firearms do you typically sell?

Answer: .45 mm of the Smith and Wesson

What are your estimated annual sales of US-origin firearms?

Answer: About 5 million baht

In the past, what has been your source for US firearms?

Answer: Kimber and Smith & Wesson.

Are you familiar with the regulations governing the import of US-origin defense articles, including restrictions on re-transfer or re-export?

Answer: Affirmative, Thai laws also strictly control and regulate the sale of firearms.

15. (U) Manit provided us with copies of the Udoman purchase order No. PR 02/2008, dated 4/8/200 8, and the Kimber Invoice, No. 448151, dated 5/28/08, with details as stated reftel.

- DSP-83, dated 4/8/2008
- Import License No. 6/255 1, dated 3/19/08
- Ten 'Permits to Buy Firearms' with names and details of the buyers of the listed Kimber .308 rifles and the rifles' series and registration numbers

JOHN